Border Edgle Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'

Vol. 48, No. 36 www.laughlin.af.mil Sept. 15, 2000

the inside **SCOOP**

Cheaper meals:

The Child Development Center announces a policy for free and reduced price meals...

Page :

101 Critical Days:

Safety member discusses the Air Force statistics of this year's 101 Critical Days of Summer...

Page 4

Family abuse:

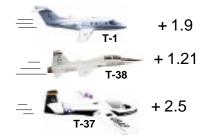
A base member explains personal responsibility and obligation to report knowledge of spousal or child abuse to local authorities...

Pages 12

Mission status

(As of Sept. 13)

Days ahead(+) or behind(-)



Fiscal Year 2000 statistics

- --Sorties flown: 66,646
- --Hours flown: 97,126.9
- --Pilot wings earned in FY 00: 320
- --Wings earned since 1963: 11,685

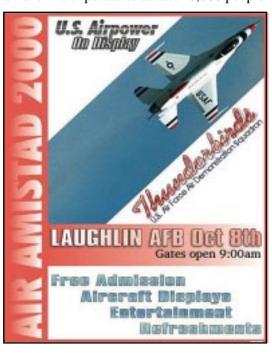
Index:

Viewpoint	page 2
News	page 3
<i>XLer</i>	page 9
Sports	page 15
Classifieds	page 17
Newsline	page 20

Air Amistad 2000 launches Oct. 8

By Lt. Col. Star Smith 87th Flying Training Squadron

ir Amistad 2000 is right around the corner, scheduled to take place Oct. 8 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Laughlin's air show is expected to attract 40,000 people



with the arrival of the Thunderbirds, the Air Force's premier aerial demonstration team.

The U.S. Army's parachute demonstration team, the Golden Knights, will kick off the air show with a parachute jump on to Laughlin's flightline while carrying the American flag. Other demonstrations, flybys and static displays promise to excite viewers as well.

Not only will the Air Force, Army and Navy's most technologically advanced aircraft be present, but guests will also be able to look into the past as members of the Confederate Air Force display several World War II-era aircraft.

A few demonstrations now scheduled include an F-80 versus MIG 15 dogfight, complete with pyrotechnics, in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War, a P-51 Aerobatic demonstration, a U-2 static display and a B-1 flyby.

There will be plenty of food and drinks available at concession stands. Guests are reminded to dress for a hot day, drink plenty of fluids and bring sunscreen.

This year's air show will be one you won't want to miss! The day will be filled with ex-



(Courtesy pno

The Thunderbirds, the Air Force's premiere aerial demonstration team, will be performing at Air Amistad 2000.

citing aerial demonstrations and ground entertainment.

During the event, spectators will have an opportunity to meet servicemembers who proudly serve and protect this nation.

Air Amistad 2000 is a great chance for the Del Rio and Laughlin communities to come together and make this year's air show the best ever!

For more information, check out the official website at <u>www.laughlin.af.mil/airamistad/airshow.htm</u>.

Two base members promoted to colonel

Two base members are among the 680 lieutenant colonels who recently found out they will soon be wearing eagles on their shoulders.

Lt. Col. Kevin Keith, 84th Flying Training Squadron commander, and Lt. Col. David W. Guthrie, former 47th Support Group deputy-commander have been selected for promotion to colonel.

The calendar year 2000A Colonel Central Selection Boards for Line, Chaplain and Biomedical Sciences Corps selected 680 officers for promotion to 0-6.

The colonel's board convened at Randolph AFB, Texas July 17 to 28, to consider 5,018 lieutenant colonels for promotion.

The entire list is posted on the Air Force Personnel Center's World Wide Web home page, www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/offprom.

Selection statistics in-the-promotion zone for colonel are as follows:

- <u>Line</u> 530 officers selected from 1,188 considered for a 44.6 percent select rate.
- <u>Chaplain</u> 8 officers selected from 19 considered for a 42.1 percent select rate.
- <u>BSC</u> 15 officers selected from 36 considered for a 41.7 percent select rate.

Selection statistics above-thepromotion zone for colonel:

See 'Colonels,' page 5

Vance student pilot dies in T-37 crash

student pilot was killed Sept. 6 when an Air Force T-37 crashed one mile short of the runway at Vance AFB, Okla.

Ensign Kristopher Krohne, 24, Navy Reserve, was performing a routine training mission when his aircraft crashed. The cause of the accident is unknown.

The T-37 is one of the standard Air Force jet trainers used for pilot training at Vance AFB and Laughlin. Vance AFB, home of the 71st Flying Training Wing, trains pilots for the Air Force, Navy, Marines, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve for allied countries.

A safety board has been appointed to investigate the cause of the crash. No other details are available at this time.



Krohne



ommanders orner

Future fighters for today's student pilots

As top priority in the Air

Force's long-term moderniza-

tion program, the aircraft re-

flects our leadership's commit-

ment to our most fundamental

core competency -Air and

Space Superiority.

By Lt. Col. Tom Davidson

he daily grind of training SUPT students on long, hot summer days with large classes can easily cause us to lose focus on what the future holds for some of our young, enthusiastic pilots.

Their skills, rooted in the training we provide today, will enable them to fly, fight and win in future conflicts. Many of today's student pilots will fly in new fighter aircraft in design and testing today.

As an action officer at the Pentagon, working future

fighter requirements, I often had to address the questions, "Why do we need to replace the F-15—an aircraft that has never been defeated in actual combat, and why are we buying two new fighters?"

Simply stated, the F-15 and F-16 fleets are aging and cannot ensure the United States' air dominance in the 21st Cen-

tury. The average age of the F-15A-D fleet is 20 years old and by the time, its replacement, the F-22 is operational, the average age will be 25 years old. The F-16 fleet, which will be replaced by the Joint Strike Fighter, lacks characteristics, such as low observability (stealth). Advanced surface-to-air missiles pose a significant threat to our fighter fleet and foreign fighters now under development will put U.S. pilots at a disadvantage by 2005.

The JSF is designed as a multi-role fighter to modernize the bulk of the Air Force's fighter fleet, which currently include the F-16 and the A-10. The JSF's missions will include air interdiction, close air support, suppression of enemy air defenses, counter air and reconnaissance.

Other performance drivers are lethality, survivability and supportability. JSF will be capable of engaging mul-

tiple targets on a single pass in adverse weather, day or night. It's survivability over the F-16 and A-10 is improved through a balanced approach of stealth characteristics and countermeasures designed to defeat enemy systems. By reducing the number of airlift loads required to deploy a squadron and increasing the number of sorties it can fly per day, the JSF will need a much smaller logistical "tail" to support joint operations in any theater.

Affordability is key to the purchase of sufficient numbers of the JSF to modernize our fleet. The Air Force plans to buy 1,763 aircraft. Commonality and

compatibility with the aircraft under development for the U.S. Navy and Marines will keep costs down.

The F-22 is America's nextgeneration air superiority fighter, designed to serve as the keystone of American air dominance in the 21st Century. A unique blend of stealth, high speed, highly-integrated avionics and maneuverability gives the F-22 capabilities far exceeding current

fighters. As top priority in the Air Force's long-term modernization program, the aircraft reflects our leadership's commitment to our most fundamental core competency—Air and Space Superiority. Current procurement plans call for the purchase of 339 F-22s.

The F-22 is so advanced that it begs the question, "Why not just buy one fighter to do it all?" History has proven the need for multiple types of fighter aircraft to perform different roles. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, the Air Force developed the F-4 Phantom II, a multi-role fighter. It was thought that the F-4 would be capable of excelling in both the air-to-air and air-to-ground environments. The F-4 was a great fighter, but it was not well suited to the air-to-air environment.

In 1964, the Air Force chief of staff initiated a study

See 'New fighter,' page 8

Commentary: Remembering sacrifices of missing, captive veterans

By Gen. Lester L. Lyles

Air Force Materiel Command comander

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio – Charles Barden used to live in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. He went to college, got his degree, became a captain and a UC-123B aircrew member in our U.S. Air Force.

Ralph Brower lived in Stow, Ohio. He also went to college, got his degree and became an Air Force captain; only he was a crewmember in an HH-3E aircraft.

I don't personally know either of these gentlemen. I'm not sure if either of them were married, had children or exactly what their lot in life was.

What I do know is both Barden and Brower were shot down over Laos Jan. 31, 1967 and Nov. 9, 1967, respectively. These warriors are two of more than 2,000 Americans listed as missing in action from the Vietnam War and many thousands others from other American conflicts.

Many Americans made the ultimate sacrifice in those conflicts, and many others were captured and taken as prisoners of war. These heroes endured torture, suffering and pain simply for being Americans.

Some of them have been scarred for life as a result. Others were fortunate to come home relatively unscathed

But for the Bardens, Browers, and the thousands of others whose remains have not been returned or are unaccounted for, that was not the case. Many families are still waiting for news of their loved one's fate, any shred of information. Did they suffer? Was it quick? Could they still be alive? We'll never know how great the load they bear truly is.

But on Sept. 15, National POW-MIA Recognition Day, we can take time from our busy schedules and show these family members and all former POWs that we remember and are thankful for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made for the cause of freedom. And that we'll not settle for anything less than a full accounting of those souls still unaccounted for.

POW-MIA recognition ceremonies will be held throughout the nation and around the world on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools, churches, national veteran and civic organizations as well as police and fire departments. The focus of each will be to make sure that America remembers its responsibility

See 'Remembering,' page 8

Col. Winfield W. Scott III

Commander

1st Lt. Angela O'Connell

Public affairs officer Airman 1st Class Brad Petti

Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Editor

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"Excellence – not our goal, but our standard."

- 47 FTW motto

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Submissions can be E-mailed to: bradley.pettit@laughlin.af.mil or reginal.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil

News Sept. 15, 2000 3

CDC announces free, reduced price meal program

he Laughlin Child Development Center recently announced its new policy for free and reduceprice meals served under the Child and Adult Food Care Program. Each facility and the chief of the Family Member Programs Flight has a copy of the policy, which anyone may review.

Children from households with income at or below certain levels are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Application forms and a letter are given to the parents or guardians.

To apply for free or reduced-price meals, households should fill out the application and return it to the contractor. Additional copies are available at the contractor's office. Information provided on the application will be used to determine eligibility; it may be verified any time during the contract year by the contractor or other program officials

Households must provide the following information on the application: all household member's names; the Social Security number of the head of the household (or other responsible adult); and all household member's incomes by source or the household's food stamp or Assistance for Families with Dependant Children case number, if appropriate; and the signature of an adult household member certifying that the information is correct. Applications may be submitted any time during the year.

According to the free and reduced-price policy, the front desk clerks will review applications and determine

eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling may discuss the decision with Barbara Bukowski, Child Development Center Director, at 298-5419. Parents may request a formal appeal either orally or in writing by contacting Sam Kyle, chief, Family Member Programs Flight, 47 Services Division at 298-4337.

Households must report increases of over \$50 per month or \$600 per year in household income, and decreases in household size. If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the contractor.

These changes may qualify children for reduce-price meals or for free meals if the household's income falls to or below the levels shown above. AFDC/Food Stamp households must report termination of benefits.

Some foster children are also eligible for free or reduced-price meals. A household with foster children should contact the contractor for more information.

The information that households provide is confidential and will be used only to determine eligibility and verifying data.

In the child nutrition program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, no child will be discriminated against because of race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or religious or political beliefs of parents.

If you believe you have been discriminated against, write immediately to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit Maelana Gaston, 1, enjoys a peanut butter cookie during snack time at the Child Development Center Monday.

Tricare Prime benefits enhanced

As of Oct. 1, 2000, retirees and other Tricare Prime beneficiaries will be eligible for enhanced eye examination benefits under the Tricare Preventive Care benefit.

Annual eye examinations will still be offered to active-duty family members as a regular Tricare benefit. Under the Preventive Care benefit, Tricare Prime beneficiaries may have an examination every two years starting at age 3.

Tricare does not offer any benefits for eyeglasses, contact lenses or other corrective lenses, except for a limited number of extreme medical conditions.

Enhanced Clinical Preventive Services eye exams

Under the enhanced Clinical Preventive eye examination benefits, pediatric eye examinations will be offered to newborns to 6 months old. These examinations include tests for visual acuity, ocular alignment, and red reflex, as well as examination of the outer part of the eye for abnormalities.

These examinations are part of the Tricare's Well-Child Care benefit and are performed by the child's primary care provider during visits.

See 'Tricare,' page 9

Benefit	Eligible beneficiaries	Frequency	Co-Payment/ Cost Share
Regular Tricare Benefit: Comprhensive eye exam	Active-duty family member	Annual	None, if performed in MTF; varies elsewhere.
Clinical Preventative Benefit:			
Pediatric eye exam	Tricare Prime enrollees, Tricare Extra, Standard users	Birth, 6 months	None
Comprehensive eye exam	Tricare Prime enrollees	Every 2 years for ages 3-64	None
Comprehensive eye exam	Diabetic Tricare Prime enrollees	Annual	None

Base recognizes National Pollution Prevention Week

By Pat Woods

47th Civil Engineer Squadron

ho ever thought anyone would dedicate an entire week – Monday through Sept. 24 – to Pollution Prevention? Probably not most of us, but it is increasingly becoming a buzzword that drives not only the way we in government buy things, but how we think before initiating any new project! Indeed, pollution prevention, or P2, is becoming increasingly more important with the way we all do our jobs.

Simply put, P2 eliminates or minimizes pollution at the source, so pollution isn't created in the first place and never enters into the environment.

P2 methods include the use of new technologies, substitute raw materials, conservation practices, efficiency enhancements and recycling. This could mean substituting a hazardous material for a less or non-hazardous one, using new technology to minimize waste streams, and controlling avenues through which a HAZMAT can enter the base.

At Laughlin, the P2 program falls under the Civil Engineering Environmental Flight and encompasses a wide range of activities, from the Hazardous Materials

Management Office to catch hazardous materials office at the front end, to the recycling operation to limit wastes.

The HAZMO monitors that any use of a hazardous material on base is first approved through Civil Engineering Environmental, Med Group BioEnvironmental Engineering and Wing Safety. This process helps ensure the correct HAZMAT is used for the correct job, and is the base's first chance to substitute a less or non-hazardous material and thus reduce its pollution potential.

The Laughlin recycling program avoids pollution by recycling items that would otherwise end up as trash in a landfill. Similarly, the composting program recycles organic material like tree limbs, grass clippings and leaves into a ground material.

New federal laws require that certain items anyone purchases contain recycled content. This Affirmative Procurement Program permeates all levels of acquisition, from the IMPAC cardholder, to major new weapons systems, to new construction, right down to the paper this article is printed on! These type laws are designed to close the loop and increase demand for recyclables, thus promoting increased recycling and

See 'Pollution,' page 9

Soldier's and Sailor's Civil Relief Act provides protection for servicemembers

The SSCRA was

enacted to postpone or

suspend certain civil

obligations of

military members to

allow them to devote

full attention to their

military duties.

By Captain Lucy H. Carrillo

47th Flying Training Wing Legal Office

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 provides a wide range of protections for active-duty people.

The SSCRA was enacted to postpone or suspend certain civil obligations of military members to allow them to devote full attention to their military duties. The act does not apply to criminal matters. Reservists and members of the National Guard are also protected under the SSCRA while on active-duty.

In addition, some of the benefits under SSCRA are extended to dependents under limited circumstances. The protections generally begin on the date of entering active duty and terminate within 30 to 90 days after the date of

discharge from active duty or upon written waiver.

The following provides a synopsis of the most common and relevant provisions in the SSCRA:

<u>Leased Housing</u> – The SSCRA may prohibit eviction, without a court order, of a servicemember and his/her dependents from rented housing where the rent does not exceed \$1,200 per month. The court may delay eviction proceedings up to 3 months if military service affects the member's ability to pay. This protection

does not extend to unoccupied housing. If a military member entered into a lease agreement prior to entering active duty, the member is entitled to termination of the rental agreement.

<u>Maximum Rate of Interest</u> – If, prior to entering active-duty service, a member incurs a loan or obligation with an interest rate in excess of 6 percent, the member will not be obligated, upon application to the lender, to pay interest in excess of 6 percent per year. This relief applies during the period of active-duty service unless a court finds the member's ability to pay has not been materially affected by military service. This protection does not apply to guaranteed student loans.

<u>Suspension of Statutes of Limitations</u> – A military member may be protected from being barred by statute of

limitation from civil or administrative proceedings, whether as a plaintiff or defendant. Examples include Board for Correction of Military Records, Merit Systems Protection Board and Bankruptcy proceedings.

<u>Stay of Proceedings</u> – Courts have the discretion to delay a civil (non-criminal) court proceeding when the requirements of military service prevent the member from either asserting or protecting a legal right. Usually, requests for a stay are granted if the time period requested is limited (TDY, exercise, deployment). Availability of leave (including excess leave) and duty requirements are key factors

<u>Default Judgments</u> – Before a court may enter a default judgment (for failure to respond to a lawsuit or

appear at trial) against a military member, the person suing the member must provide the court with an affidavit stating the defendant is not in the military. If the defendant is in the military, the court will appoint an attorney to represent the defendant's interests (usually to seek a stay of proceedings). If a default judgment is entered against a servicemember, the judgment may also be reopened if the member makes application within 90 days of leaving active duty and demonstrates both prejudicial effect and a legal defense.

Insurance – A servicemember's private life insurance policy is protected against lapse, termination, or forfeiture for nonpayment of premiums for a period of military service plus 2 years. The insured or beneficiary must apply to the Veteran's Administration for protection. Also, any health insurance in effect on the day before active military service commenced is reinstated without waiting periods or physical condition restrictions.

<u>Taxation</u> – A servicemember's state of legal residence may tax military income and personal property. However, the state in which the member is stationed may not tax the member's pay (unless that is the member's state of legal residence). A member does not lose legal residence solely because of a transfer pursuant to military orders. For

See 'SSCRA,' page 12

Laughlin makes it through 101 Critical Days of Summer

By Sharon Reeves

47th Flying Training Wing

t the conclusion of this millennium year's 101 Critical Days of Summer Safety campaign, 19 Air Force members had lost their lives. One of these mishaps was on-duty. The remaining 18 members were fatally injured in off-duty activities.

Statistically, this is one more fatality than was recorded in the same period for 1999, but there is more to the lives lost than mere statistics.

Husbands, wives, mothers, fathers, children and friends will grieve over the lost lives. Some of these fatalities were preventable. Nine fatalities involved failure to use seat belts. Four fatalities had proven to be related to or suspected to have happened because of alcohol involvement. One motorcycle passenger was not wearing a helmet and died when he was thrown from the motorcycle. Four of the fatal mishaps were members from Air Education and Training Command bases.

There were no fatalities among personnel assigned to Laughlin, which seems to indicate that base members used good judgement and risk management in their off-duty activities.

Still, there were 61 injuries during this period, four less than the same period in 1999. Twenty-six mishaps were in off-duty activities, and 35 were onduty mishaps. Five of the on-duty mishaps were Class C, involving lost workdays, and one off-duty mishap was a Class C.

So Team XL, give yourselves a pat on the back, keep on using good judgement and risk management, and keep those seat belts buckled.

Note: You can read the mishap summaries on the Air Force Safety Center web page, <u>www-afsc.saia.af.mil/AFSC/RDBMS/Ground/sum-mer2000/summerhome.htm</u>.

Base commissary offers back to school snacks for kids

By Flo Dunn

Fort Lee, Va.

Reading, 'Riting, 'Rithmetic and Raisins. Raisins? What do raisins have to do with the three R's?

They mean a lot for parents who are looking for nutritional back-to-school snacks to fill lunch boxes, stow in their children's backpacks or have on hand for hungry youngsters after school.

These hand-held snacks fit perfectly into the always-in-motion lifestyle of active youngsters.

According to David Newhart, category buyer, Dry Grocery Consumables, for the Defense Commissary Agency Marketing Business Unit, some of the more popular snack items, associated with going back to school, are fruit cups, breakfast bars, cheese snacks, snack packs, lunchables, vacuum-packaged drinks, salty snacks, cookies and pudding cups.

And, don't overlook the produce department for those luscious apples, tangy oranges, juicy peaches, plums, grapes, crispy

celery hearts, carrot sticks and other fruits and veggies for back to school or after school snacks.

Often the after school snack becomes the evening meal for youngsters whose parents or caregivers are working.

"For the college crowd, we offer shelf-stable microwavable foods, ramen noodles and single serving size canned products," said Newhart.

"And, when all else fails, rely on the old standby: peanut butter and jelly," he added.

Don't forget to check out the DeCA web site shopper's link at <u>www.commissaries.com</u> for "What's on Sale" and to find out about special sales and promotions.

Safety belts save lives – so buckle up!

Question of the week

How will you remember POWs and MIA today?



"I will think about my grandfather who was a prisoner of war in World War II."

2nd Lt.
Christian Knierim
47th Operations Support
Squadron



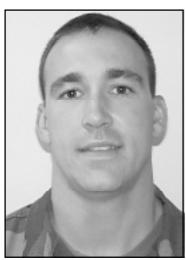
"Remember the sacrifices the POWs and MIA made to put us where we are today and recognize how we've benefited from what they did."

Tech. Sgt. Alan Mills 47th Medical Operations Squadron



"I will reflect on the sacrifices that prisoners of war made for our country by giving up part of their lives to captivity, and to honor the memory of those missing in action who know the taste of freedom has a flavor most will never experience."

<u>Staff Sgt. Jeff Herndon</u> 47th Aerospace Physiology



"When I put on my uniform, I think of all those prisoners of war and missing in action who made sacrifices for our country. I hope I can do my job in the U.S. Air Force in a way that will honor them."

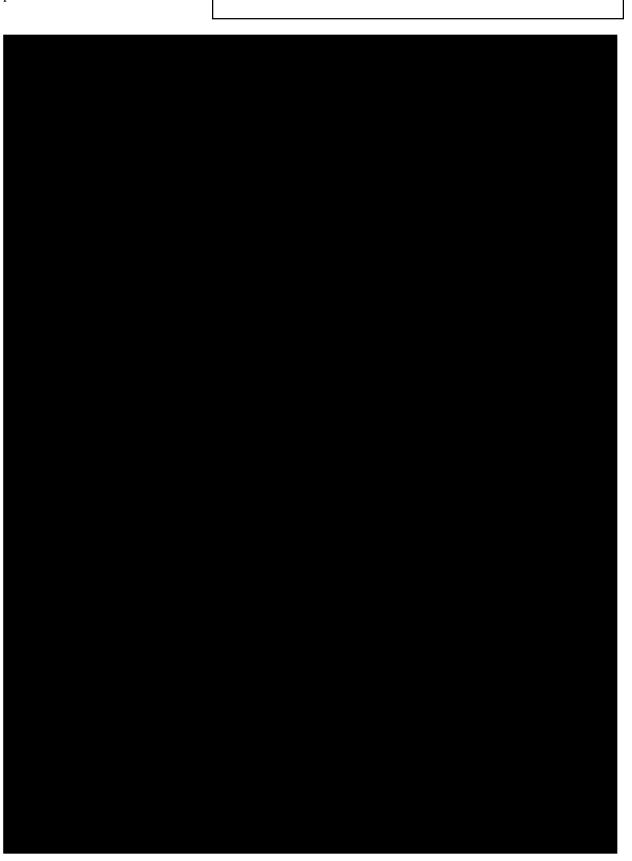
Airman 1st Class
Harold Bryson
47th Contracting Squadron

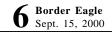
'Colonels,' from page 1

- <u>Line</u> 26 officers selected from 1,059 considered for a 2.5 percent select rate.
- <u>Chaplain</u> 0 officers selected from 35 considered for a 0.0 percent select rate.
- <u>BSC</u> Two officers selected from 33 considered for a 6.1 percent select rate.

Selection statistics below-thepromotion zone colonel:

- <u>Line</u> 98 officers selected from 2,584 considered for a 3.8 percent select rate.
- <u>BSC</u> 1 officer selected from 64 considered for a 1.6 percent select rate.





Where are they now?

Name: Capt. Paul Crandall. Class/Date of graduation from Laughlin: February, Class 93-02.

Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at: F-15E, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.

Mission of your aircraft? Multi-role fighter.

What do you like most about your current aircraft? It is employed in two areas of responsibility. It has 200 combat hours.

What do you dislike most

about your current aircraft? Undermanned.

What was the most important thing you learned at Laughlin besides learning to fly? Five dollars for a 1/5 of Jose's Gold—a great price. What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin? Solo to outer areas.

What advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin? Get Texas residency. Have fun flying. It is much easier that way.



(U.S. Air Force photo)



The XLer

Hometown: Lovington, N.M. Family: Wife, Crystal; sons, Michael, 14, Zachary, 10; daughter,

Samantha, 8.

Time at Laughlin: 2 years. Time in service: 13 years.

Why did you join the Air Force: I

needed a job.

Name one way to improve life at Laughlin: Build a Popeye's on base. Greatest accomplishment: I'm still in the military.

Bad habit: Too many to tell.

Motto: None.

Favorite beverage: A cold one. Favorite food: Anything with New

Mexico Green Chili. *Hobbies:* Watching sports.

If you could spend one hour with an historical figure, who would it be and why? Caesar Chavez. He did a great service for the migrant workers in ensuring their rights were protected.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Tech. Sgt. Chris Trujillo 47th Contracting Squadron





From the Blotter

(From Sept. 6 – 12)



- The law enforcement desk received an emergency 911 call from an individual on a government phone. The call was traced and security forces responded and contacted the individual who made the call. A statement was taken and the individual stated she was told to dial 911 to obtain an outside line.
- The security forces law enforcement desk received a call from an individual stating someone had backed into his vehicle. Security forces responded and the owner of the other vehicle stated he had accidentally left his vehicle in neutral without setting the parking brake. The vehicle coasted approximately 25 feet into the individual's vehicle.
- The installation entry controller observed a vehicle departing his post and driving errati-

- cally on Liberty. The guard radioed for assistance with a possible intoxicated driver. A patrol responded and initiated a traffic stop. The suspect failed his pre-exit test and field sobriety test.
- An individual came to the law enforcement desk and reported that someone possibly had tried to illegally enter his secured dorm room. The complaint was generated because the individual's mother had called earlier and a strange voice answered the phone.

Tip of the day: Please drive carefully, especially in residential areas and near public facilities. Even though summer vacation has ended, there are a lot of children still playing around base housing during the evening and at the bus stops in the morning.



Drops become gallons



'New fighter,' from page 2

to determine optimal force structure for the future. The study concluded the Air Force needed a high technology, higher cost, dedicated, air-to-air fighter to counter Soviet aircraft; a deep interdiction type aircraft, and a larger number of lower cost aircraft that were capable in the air-to-air environment but focused on air-to-ground employment. From this study, we got the F-15, F-111 and the F-16 aircraft.

The Air Force's current fighter modernization plan, involving the F-22 and JSF, reflects a 1974 modernization study that called for a "high-low mix" of higher cost, higher performance F-15s and lower cost, but very capable F-16s. The modernization plan balances affordability and capability to provide the Joint Force Commander the optimum balance of combat air power. The F-22 will support our core competencies of Air and Space Superiority, while the JSF will support our core competencies of Precision Engagement and Global Attack. Both aircraft designs build on common enabling technologiesstealth, precision, fused information, and supportability-that will help them serve as

the backbone our fighter fleet well into the 21st Century.

America's planned fighter force will provide unmatched capabilities in both the air-to-air and air-to-ground roles for future generations of fighter pilots. Many of those pilots are training at Laughlin. Superior training has long been the hallmark of American pilots and is cited as a key factor in the success of aerial campaigns from World War II to the present. "To train the world's best air warriors for the Air Force and our allies" isn't just a slogan, it's a mindset and is critical to winning conflicts in the future.

'Remembering,' from page 2

to stand behind those who served our nation so valiantly and do everything possible to account for those who did not return.

I encourage each of you to take time away from that day's business to reflect and honor the sacrifices the Bardens and Browers of the world and all former Prisoners of War have made. It is my hope and prayer that all those still missing will someday be accounted for. But until that day comes, let's remember...

(Courtesy AFMCNS)

Hispanic Heritage Month offers opportunity to express, learn hertiage

Hispanic Heritage Month can be celebrated in many different ways. Here are some suggestions to help you get started

- Take pan dulce to the office or work to share with friends.
- Listen to Hispanic elders and let them tell stories, so that they will be remembered and passed on. Listen, record and remember.
- Read some Latino magazines such as Hispanic, Latina Magazine, Moderna and other magazines now available.
- Give to Hispanic causes and charities that are working to help the community and youth such as the National Hispanic Scholarship Fund.
- Learn how to surf the net and visit the various Latino web sites such as LatinoLink, Hispanic Online or Latino Web.
- Learn about issues affecting Latinos like English only, immigration, affirmative action, welfare reform, education, youth, violence, drugs, teen pregnancy, child and spousal abuse and Latino health issues.

- Speak out against immigrant-bashing, prejudice, racism and sexism when you see it occur.
- As you enjoy your meals during this month-long celebration, make a special effort to keep in mind the farm workers, packagers, cannery workers, food and restaurant workers and domestic workers. Remember to support their struggle and causes.
- Teach young people the value of being a peacemaker when it comes to violence and how to act to avoid in a cool way to walk away and keep the peace.
- Learn to grow and appreciate the many beautiful cultures and rich traditions of others.
- Work to help build a diverse, technologically sophisticated and cosmopolitan society with decent human values and principles, and respect traditional values.

These are just a few suggestions to give people some ideas of how to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. Take this opportunity to learn new cultures and try new things.

'Tricare,' from page 3

Starting at age 3, comprehensive eye examinations are offered Prime enrollees every two years until age 64. Diabetic patients are recommended to have comprehensive eye examinations yearly.

There are no co-payments for Clinical Preventive Services eye examinations under Tricare Prime. Note that under Tricare Standard or Tricare Extra, only children are covered for Clinical Preventive Services eye examinations.

Annual eye exams for active-duty servicemembers and their families

Active-duty servicemembers may obtain eye examinations through the Military Treatment Facility to which they are assigned. In addition to the enhanced eye benefit, active-duty family members may have an annual comprehensive eye examination. No payment is required if the annual examination is available and performed at the MTF. A co-payment, deductible or cost share is required for the annual eye exami-

nation if performed outside the MTF. The amount varies according to the sponsor's pay grade and the Tricare plan in which the family member participates.

Referrals or preauthorizations

If eye disease or another medical condition is detected during an examination, a referral or pre-authorization is needed before

the beneficiary may receive additional medical or surgical services. All comprehensive eye examinations must be performed by a Tricare-certified network optometrist or ophthalmologist.

For more information, visit the Tricare Service Center or call 1-800-406-2832 (Option #3).

'Pollution,' from page 3

making the industry profitable.

The P2 program is working, lowering hazardous waste at Laughlin by more than 60 percent while doubling the flying hour program over the past 5 years, and diverting 40 percent of solid waste from landfills for recycling purposes. These kinds of results mirror everyone's effort across base to pitch in and help. Folks like the 92 percent of housing residents that recycle, the recycling team who travels around housing weekly picking it all up, the shop worker who finds and uses the non-hazardous product and the person who selectively buys recycled-content supplies.

Laughlin is an active member of the Texas Pollution Prevention Partnership, a working group between all Texas bases, state and federal regulators.

P2 is truly a team effort, and as a team, we all XL!

For more information or if you have any P2 suggestions, call Pat Woods at 4351.

Reporting family maltreatment necessary

By Paul Buckingham

47th Medical Group

eciding on reporting child and spouse maltreatment is a decision most of us will have to make in our lifetime. There are standard reasons why people don't want to report.

Some of them are: it's none of my business, I don't want to take the chance on them finding out it was me who called and I don't want to get anyone in trouble.

One thing that makes it your business is the law. In regard to suspected child maltreatment, the Texas Family Code (Chapter 261 – Investigation of report of child abuse or neglect)
Sec.261.101 states that a person having cause to believe that a child's physical or mental health or welfare has been adversely affected by abuse or neglect by any person shall immediately make a report to a local or state law enforcement agency or the agency designated by the court to be responsible for the protection of children (in Texas, Child Protective Services).

In the instances where spouse maltreatment is suspected, Air Force Instruction 40-301 para. 1.19 states that all active- duty members and civilian employees must report all incidents of suspected

maltreatment (child or adult) to the Family Advocacy Program.

In response to the concern of retaliation by the parties involved child maltreatment, the law also allows for the reporter's name being kept confidential. The identity of someone making a report is confidential and may be disclosed only on the order of a court rendered under Section 261.201 or to a law enforcement officer for the purpose of conducting a criminal investigation of the report.

The issue of getting someone in trouble is also a common excuse. Statistics show that the earlier maltreatment is addressed the better the chance of effecting a change and saving the family. If abuse continues to go on without intervention the probable course is more severe injuries. This changes the situation from a counseling issue to a legal / law enforcement issue. Not reporting abuse is what causes problems for families.

In 1998, in the U.S., over 1 million adults were victims of domestic violence with 1830 deaths; in 1996 there were more than 1 million substantiated cases of child maltreatment with 1046 deaths.

The best reason to report domestic violence is because it is the right thing to do. No one deserves to be abused no matter what the situation.

'SSCRA,' from page 4 example, if a member who is a Virginia resident is PCS'd to California, the member will not be forced to lose Virginia residency nor be subject to California state income tax on military pay; however, Virginia may continue to tax the member's base pay.

Repossession – If a servicemember or member's spouse enters into an installment contract prior to entering activeduty, and military service materially affects the ability to pay, the creditor is prevented from repos-

session without a court order. The courts may compare the member's pre-service income to the member's military income to determine the member's financial condition

<u>Involuntary Allotments</u> – If you are a servicemember and receive notice of involuntary allotment, see an attorney during legal assistance. You may be entitled to protections under SSCRA.

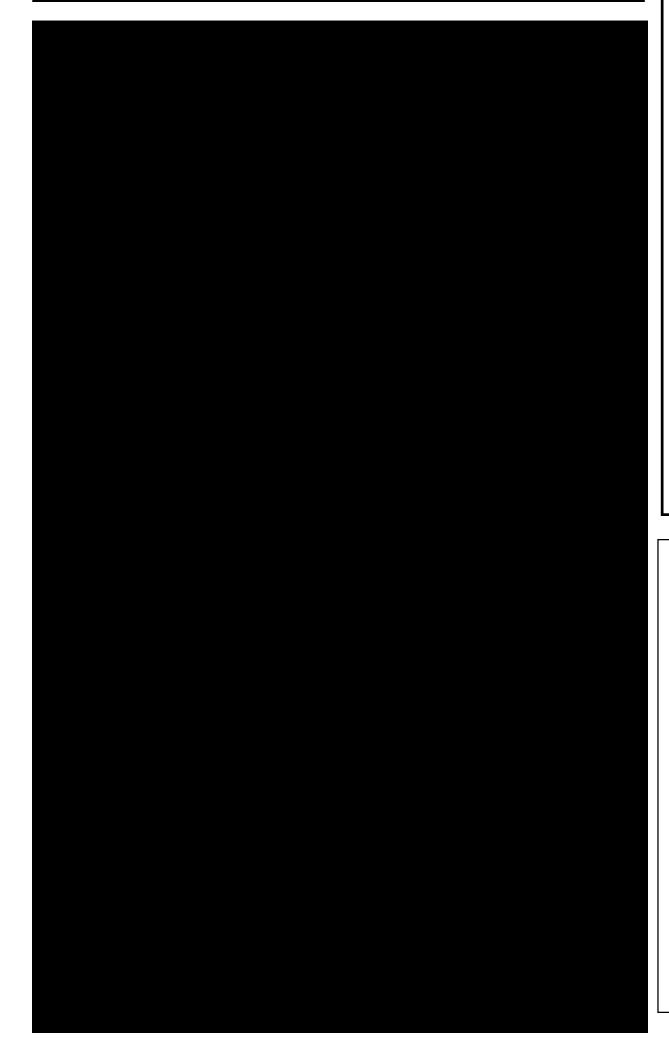
<u>Adverse Actions</u> – Creditors and insurers are prohibited from pursuing adverse actions (i.e. notifying credit agencies, denying

credit, changing terms) against servicemembers who exercise their rights under SSCRA.

Be aware that this article is intended to provide a brief outline of protections available under SSCRA. Other protections may be available, and some of the protections listed are subject to limitations.

For specific questions on your case, please come to the Legal Office during legal assistance hours, Tuesdays from 3-4 p.m. and Thursdays from 8-9 a.m., to speak with an attorney.







Passing of the jeep Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pett

Chief Master Sgt. Johnny Hall, 47th Flying Training Wing manpower and organization chief, is congratulated by Chief Master Sgt. William Schoen, 47th Communications Squadron, after receiving the Laughlin Chiefs Jeep. The Chiefs Jeep is an Air Force enlisted tradition and is given to the newest chief master sergeant on base, who is then required to carry it to all official functions for 30 days. If the jeep is taken from the new chief because of his inattentiveness, that chief must pay a "fine" to retrieve it from the hands of the wing command chief master sergeant.

12 Border Eagle Sept. 15, 2000 Sports

Airmen try out for Olympics

Saturday thousands of America's finest atlethes will represent the U.S.A. in the 2000 Olympics games in Sydney, Australia.

It's possible some of those athletes competing will also represent America as members of the world's finest Air Force.

The Air Force World Class Athlete Program offers highly qualified Air Force athletes the opportunity to apply for a program that provides full-time training in their sport. Any Air Force athlete who has attained a high national ranking in an Olympic sport, or has been identified by the Olympic Committee's National Governing Body of the respective sport, may apply for inclusion into the WCAP.

Based on their resume and NGB input, athletes accepted into the program are assigned to a location that is most conducive to extensive training in their sport. Athletes may train with the national team or with a nationally ranked coach for up to two years prior to the Olympics. They may remain in the program as long as they remain competitive in their sport and continue to progress toward their pre-approved training goals and Olympic team selection.

Thirty Air Force Athletes participated in the World Class Athlete Program training for a shot at Olympic gold in Australia. They are:

Lt. Col. Scott Schroeder, shooting

Maj. Dominic Grazioli, shooting

Maj. Teresa Orcutt, modern pentathlon

Maj. Kimberly Robinson, track and field

Maj. Mark Cucuzzella, track and field

Maj. William Roy, shooting

Capt. David Vondrak, shooting

Capt. Michael Herman, shooting

Capt. Dirk Douma, modern pentathlon

Capt. Eric Mack, track and field

Capt. Joseph Pastorello, boxing

Capt. Jeffrey Kuzma, track and field

Capt. Nicholas MacFalls, track and field

Capt. Matthew Zuber, track and field

Capt. Valerie Manning, track & field

Capt. David DeGraaf, team handball

1st Lt. Klaus Franze, shooting

1st Lt. Amy McCoy, rowing

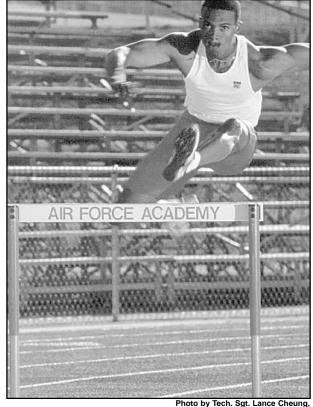


Photo by Tech. Sgt. Lance Cheung, courtesy Airman Magazine

Senior Airman Calvin Bostic, "athlete-in-residence" at the Air Force Academy, is one of 30 airmen hoping to realize Olympic dreams

2nd Lt. Nicole Mustilli, fencing

2nd Lt. Todd Davis, track and field

2nd Lt. Kevin Eastler, track and field

2nd Lt. Nikolai Wedekind, rowing

2nd Lt. Deena Wigger, shooting

2nd Lt. Marcus Nichols, track and field

Master Sgt. Barbara Shea, shooting

Master Sgt. Donald Shea, shooting

Staff Sgt. Kenneth Helgeson, cycling

Senior Airman Corey Farkas, wrestling

Senior Airman Malcom Tann, boxing

Senior Airman Charley Carbaugh, wrestling

Senior Airman Aaron Sieracki, wrestling

Senior Airman Jamie McCarrison, archery

Senior Airman Paul Gagich, wrestling

Airman 1st Class Albert Villarruel, boxing

Senior Airman Jacob Hey, wrestling

Airman 1st Class Calvin Bostic, track and field (Information compiled from AFNS, Airman Magazine)

Football 'Bragging Rights' contest begins

The "Football Bragging Rights Contest" begins Wednesday. Four additional players can join the competition.

From week four through 16 of the NFL season, players will predict the winners of the upcoming week's games. Each correct pick will earn that player a point. Points are accumulated throughout the regular season. Results from each week will be posted in the sports section of the Border Eagle.

At the end of the regular season, the top six players will compete in the playoffs. Players will select the winners from each round, all the way to the Super Bowl. Points from the regular

season will not carry over to the playoffs. Points for correct selections in the playoffs will be as follows:

First round-1 point
Division-5 points
Conference championship-10 points
Super Bowl winner-20 points

The player with the most points at the end of the playoff is the contest winner.

To be a player, call Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit at 5393 or Staff Sgt. Reginal Woodruff at 5262. The deadline for entrants is 4:30 p.m. Tuesday. No other players will be added once the contest begins. Newsline Border Eagle Sept. 15, 2000 13



What have we got here?

Col. Winfield Scott, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, and Maj. Gen. Steven Polk, 19th Air Force commander, review a document at the Operations Training Complex during the general's visit to Laughlin Sept. 7. Polk was guest speaker at the SUPT Class 00-14 graduation Sept. 8.

Pilot awards

The graduation awards for SUPT Class 00-14 are as follows:

Order of Daedalians AETC Commander's Trophy

2nd Lt. Jeffrey W. Liegl (Airlift, Tanker) Capt. Jason A. Smith (Fighter, Bomber)

Outstanding Officer

Capt. Ross A. Paullet

Distinguished Graduates

2nd Lt. Jeffrey W. Liegl (Airlift, Tanker)

Capt. Jason A. Smith (Fighter, Bomber)

Flying Training Award

2nd Lt. Samuel J. Noland (Airlift, Tanker) Capt. Jason A. Smith (Fighter, Bomber)

Academic Training Award

2nd Lt. Justin T. Mayfield (Airlift, Tanker)

Capt. Christopher M. Skora (Fighter, Bomber)

Daedalian Award

2nd Lt. Jon K. Rubin (Fighter, Bomber)

Laughlin History

Q: The 47th Flying Training Wing emblem is a heraldic device symbolizing the wing's mission, each element having a special meaning. What does the olive branch represent?

- (a) The men and women who are trained by the wing to become fully qualified pilots.
- (b) The excellence required of Air Force personnel.
- (c) The successful students who have taken their places as pilots in the Air Force to defend the peace.

The correct answer is ... (a). Answer (b) refers to the AF yellow color, and (c) applies to the lightning bolt.

HCAC meeting

The Health Consumers Advisory Council is a forum for exchanging information between the providers and consumers of health care at Laughlin. Representatives from most base organizations and from the retired population meet with members of the Clinic Executive Committee once a quarter on an informal basis.

The next meeting of the Council will be held at 1 p.m. Oct. 6 in the wing conference room here. Don't miss this opportunity to express your satisfaction with or concerns about health care at Laughlin.

For more information, or to indicate attendance, call Mina Stover at 6311.

Prep course

An education course is being offered by the Life Skills Clinic and the Family Advocacy Program.

The Couples Communication: Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program class dates are on the following Wednesdays: Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 1.

For more information, or for registration information, call 6422.

BCAC assignments

The Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinator is a congressionally mandated assignment to optimize the Customer Service Program.

This program allows you access to a trained BCAC staff member who will use automated systems to thoroughly research and respond to your inquiries in required time frames, reducing the need for duplicative inquires to legislators, inspector generals and other federal agencies

The 47th Medical Group's BCAC is James McAllister. For more information, call him at 6350.

TAP seminar

A Transition Assistance Program Seminar is scheduled from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday in the Family Support Center in Room 316.

All separating and retiring active-duty members are encouraged to attend. The seminar is also opened to civilians retiring or separating on a space available basis. For more information, call 298-5620.

US 277 Road construction

Preliminary work on the reconstruction of a portion of US 277 in Val Verde County is scheduled to begin Monday. As a result, all North and Southbound traffic on US 277 will be detoured through Rocksprings through SH 55 and US 377.

The project is expected to last eight months. The traveling public is asked to drive with extreme caution and observe all traffic safety signs and markings around construction areas.

47th Medical Group closure

The 47th Medical Group will be closed for training from 1 to 5 p.m. Thursday. The Family Practice Clinic will not operate sick call hours in the afternoon. Aerospace Medicine will operate sick call hours from 1 to 2 p.m. If you have an emergency, contact Ambulance Services at 6333.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Kevin Weinand at 6308.

Enlisted Dining Out

An Enlisted Combat Dining Out is scheduled for Sept. 23 at 6 p.m. in the Fiesta Center. Enlisted members and their families are welcome to attend. Tickets are \$10 for E-6 and below and \$15 for E-7 and above. Tickets can be picked up through unit first sergeants.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Reginald Henry at 6443.

Yard of the month

The Yard of the Month winners for the month of Septmber are as follows:

Mobile Home Park

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Knoll

Enlisted

Tech. Sgt. and Mrs. Robert Ochs

Officer

1st Lt. and Mrs. Michael Havard

Editor's notes

In the Sept. 8 issue of the Border Eagle, Senior Airman Jeanne M. Huss, 47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron, was misidentified as Senior Airman Michelle S. Vega on page 3; the caption beneath the photo on page 12 should have read ... a recycling bin to a rolling cart to ship it out to the base recycling yard; Air Amistad 2000 is scheduled for Oct. 8, not Oct. 15 as printed on page 20.

The Border Eagle staff apologizes for any problems these errors may have caused.

Officers' Spouses' Club

A social is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday at Club XL. A "white elephant giveaway" will be held with a \$5 to \$10 limit. Meal choices are lasagna or ceaser salad.

For reservations (A-L), call Angela O'Connell at 298-7081 or Jackie Oberdeick (M-Z), 298-7201.

Wine taste

The Del Rio branch of the American Red Cross will be hosting its second annual wine tasting Sept. 29 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Pecan Street Station in Del Rio. Wines from across Texas will be served. Tickets are \$15.

For more information, call the American Red Cross office at 775-8626 or Phyllis Brown at 775-1632.

Autumn arts and crafts

The Laughlin Officers' Spouses' Club will host an Autumn Arts and Crafts Bazaar from 3 to 8 p.m. Sept. 29 at the Fiesta Center.

For more information, call Jane Juselis at 298-0224.